

**MADISON COUNTY LEPC MEETING
September 20, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

Attendance:

Joe Husar, Harrison QRU
Steve Orr, MCSO, VCFD
Chris Orr, RVS&R, CERT, VCFD
Jane Yecny, RVAS, RVH, RVS&R
Wayne Redfield, CCC
Jill Steeley, MC Public Health Administrator
Christopher Mumme, DES
Steve DiGiovanna, MC Communications Coordinator
Fred Wilson, RVSAR
John Bancroft, Ennis Town Council
Wendy Husar, HPNQURU, FD
David Schenk, MCSO

Chairman Joe Husar called the meeting of the Madison County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) to order at 7:00 PM at the Madison County Courthouse.

Introductions were made around the table.

The report on the Round Table Exercise held on July 31, 2007 was distributed.

Resolution of Pending Organizational Matters:

Fuels reduction project at Moonlight is ongoing. As more people do fuel reduction projects contractor's names will be provided.

Subdivision reviews will become very busy in the near future as the new Planning Director comes on board.

CCC Report: See attached Report

Emergency Management Director Report: See attached report

Communications Coordinator Report: See attached report

Continuation of Subdivision Review Discussion:

Shawn and Joe are working on the proposed changes. The main focus has been on writing better regulations for fire and roads.

The following are also topics to be addressed:

- Water supply for fire suppression
- Construction Materials
- Structural sprinklers

Joe was asked if grass on undeveloped lots could be addressed in the Subdivision Review document. He responded that it could be.

PDM Update:

When Julie returns the PDM document will be submitted to the Commissioners to be ratified.

Flood and Wildland Annexes:

Work is ongoing.

EOC Activation Drill:

The report on the activation drill was discussed. See under New Business one solution to answer problems outlined in the report (IM Team).

New Business:

Election of new Chairman:

Wayne Redfield was nominated for the Chairman position. Moved and Seconded to elect Wayne as the Chairman, all in favor, motion passed.

Incident Management Team (IMT)

Chris explained the need to establish an IMT. Chris Mumme, Steve Orr, Jill Steely, Steve DiGiovanna, Sheriff Dave Schenk will be the core IMT. The core group will be trained in ICS 100 – 800 in order to learn all aspects of incident management. Chris explained that the IMT would respond to incidents to help the Emergency Responders manage the incident. Steve DiGiovanna discussed the need in Madison County for this team. He also explained that County employees have the knowledge of county resources thus making them ideal for team members.

Motion was made and seconded to take this proposal to the Commissioners for approval. All in favor, motion passed.

Various LEPC members offered to attend the Commission meeting for support.

Madison County Public Health – Jill Steely

Immunization Data Base:

Jill Steely reported she is assembling groups of Emergency Responders to add to a State web based immunization data base. The purpose of this collection is to have records of Emergency Responders immunizations when they respond to disasters.

Mutual Aid Assistance Data Base:

Jill Steely reported that Madison County is one of two counties that have been asked to participate in a pilot program that will list Emergency Responders on a web based data base for the purpose of mutual aid. Jill asked the each separate group of responders let her know when they meet and she will be happy to attend the meeting with her laptop computer to sign responders up. Jill will let Chris know the website to visit if responders want to sign up themselves.

Schedule Next Meeting:

The next LEPC meeting is 7:00 PM. on Thursday, October 18, 2007.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned

ATTACHMENTS

Director, Emergency Management
Report to LEPC

It has been a busy summer and several events and incidents have occurred since the last LEPC meeting. Following is a list of the incidents and events that took place to date:

EXERCISES: Two exercises were conducted this summer; one was the 4th of July Ennis parade and rodeo. This was a full scale exercise that involved multiple jurisdictions, and also local and state involvement. The MT DES Mobile Command Unit was on scene to act as the ICP and with the exception of some communication glitches, the exercise was performed professionally and without any problems. The AAR was performed later and several ideas surfaced to fine tune our actions for the next incident.

The second exercise was a table top involving a HazMat spill at the junction on HWY 287 in Ennis. The AAR showed that we failed in many areas, so a Corrective Action Plan was developed by this Department, Communications Steve DiGiovanna, DPHHS Jill Steeley, Sheriff Dave Schenk and Capt Steve Orr. Throughout this meeting it was apparent that rather than trying to train the entire Emergency service volunteer personnel, Madison County will develop an IMT starting with the aforementioned personnel as a core group.

FIRES: There was almost too many fires to count in this report, the EM was on scene at the Hells Canyon Fire, Rochester Basin, Bar Z, Wisconsin Creek fire, Laurin Canyon and even showed for the small grass fire North of Meadow (Ennis) Lake. Every fire that I attended showed me that we have excellent personnel in charge of fighting fires and the fact that we are volunteer even accentuates the excellence.

VEHICLE ACCIDENTS (HAZMAT): D.E.M. was on scene for Mile Marker 13 "hot asphalt" spill. Once again, when it comes to actual response to incidents, our Emergency responders perform brilliantly. Idaho Asphalt appeared the next day and promised clean up. Unfortunately this process went on far to long and after conversing with Bill Stecker of MT DOT, it was decided that this office should write a stern letter "nasty gram" to Idaho Asphalt. This was done and the results were significant enough to motivate the Asphalt Company to come back and properly clean up the spill. Their clean up process is to be repeated within the next week.

Junction 287 in Ennis was the scene of another wreck where a driver for Miller Bros. Company out of Hyrum, UT. drove straight through the stop at the Junction of 287 Mt and US HWY heading south. The load was cattle on the way to slaughter and was within the US so not considered a Hazmat. Once again, an excellent response, please see D.E.M. for report on this incident or any other incidents if you want the details.

PROJECTS/PLANS/PROGRAMS (in the works): D.E.M. has been working on several issues and projects since our last meeting:

In the Hopper:

First on the list is the creation of the VC Fire District and annexation of Alder Fire District of the unassigned area encompassing 97 square miles surrounding Virginia City. D.E.M. has mailed out an explanation of why this needs to be done and on September 24, the petitions will be mailed or hand delivered to the respective owners to be signed, or not.

D.E.M. has submitted a grant to CTEP for mitigation purposes for an amount of \$35,000 which will provide D.E.M. with equipment to ascertain the hazards in each area and how to mitigate a plan to be ready for any event. Money has been set aside in this grant if provided for training of up to 25 personnel to operate the equipment. Awards will be granted in November or early December.

A grant was also submitted to Helping Hands for \$15,000 in funds to help with the enhancement of CERT for training and equipment. No word yet, but you can submit comments on line, please do so if you feel the urge.

D.E.M. is working with Wayne Redfield and Julie Johnson concerning the PDM. Julie is going to classes and will bring back her newly acquired information to the LEPC.

D.E.M. has completed the NIMSCAST report for 2007 and has submitted to the state the results.

D.E.M. has also helped form the Big Sky Emergency Planning group. A meeting was held in Moonlight Basin the end of June and the results were the formation of sub groups to address the various jurisdictional potential hazards. A meeting is to be held in late October or November to go over the group findings.

It appears that the budget will be ratified by the Board of Commissioners and to that end, the D.E.M. will order two pallets (32 pails to one pallet) of fire foam, one pallet to be sent to MVRFD and the other at Alder FD. These pails will be on hand for each valley (Madison and Ruby) to be picked up by the respective Fire Departments. *When appropriating these pails, please notify the D.E.M of how many were appropriated for billing purposes.

Together with the Risk Mitigation Coordinator, Joe Husar and Scott McClintic, we were asked to give a talk to residents in the North/South Meadow Creek area on the fire hazards and fuel reduction. This was performed well and there was a good turn out. Also, Joe Husar gave a show at the Moonlight Basin project concerning the WUI Grant, it was very well received. D.E.M. has secured another \$20,000 for the 75/25 match grant WUI from Headwaters RC&D and BLM. Joe Husar is working on acquiring new homeowners for contracting under this grant.

Future Moves:

The following needs to be addressed by the LEPC and D.E.M.: PDM, subdivision reg's, Joe Husar and Shawn Christensen have already supplied my office with the suggestions, I just need to bring them before the Commission.

The flood and wildfire annexes need to be completed, D.E.M will be working on them this fall now that things have slowed a little.

Formation of an IMT, this is in the works and will continue to be formed and expanded.

CLASSES & APPOINTMENTS:

I have been elected District III V.P. representing (Madison, Broadwater, Jefferson, Beaverhead, Gallatin, Park, Meagher, Sweetgrass, and Lewis & Clark Counties). I also have been appointed to the Senior Advisory Committee to MT DES. This is a great chance to have our voices heard, so if you have any concerns or ideas, submit them to me and I will present to the E Board.

I will be taking the ICS 300 class on Oct 1 & 2. 4Also, a PIO class is being set up by Capt Steve

Orr which will tentatively be held the last week of November. We need 25 participants. See Capt Steve Orr for details.

CERT classes will be held starting September 29th, 2007 @ 0800 in the Virginia City Gymnasium.

The SAC meeting will be held October 5th.

**MADISON COUNTY
Communications Department**

TO: LEPC, Commissioners, Sheriff's Office, DES

FROM: Steve DiGiovanna – Communications Coordinator (Trainee)

SUBJECT: Communications Update September 17, 2007

On September 4th, I reported on board as the future replacement for the position of Communication Coordinator. Frank Ford currently fills this slot on a consultant / private contractor basis. Frank will be retiring soon (possibly sometime around the first week of October).

I am on a very steep learning curve - and I am working diligently to try to somehow get my arms around the responsibilities of this new position and the projects and ventures that Frank has initiated. In addition to that, I have a few of my own ideas and a vision of what direction we need to head and how we may need to proceed.

We are presently working on a couple of issues involving radio clarity and quality. Though our over-all coverage has improved substantially over the past year or so, we are trying to address a problematic condition with what is now known as the "open mic problem".

We have spent a fair amount of time, effort and monetary resources in an attempt to locate the source of this open mic noise. This issue seems to affect the Ruby Valley side of the county primarily – with occasional bleed over into the Madison side. We have ultimately filed a formal complaint (officer/life safety issue) with the FCC - and hope to have their influence and assistance on this situation in short order.

The radio "uplink" from the courthouse dispatch office to our 1st primary repeater on Virginia City Hill will need our attention soon. This uplink will probably become our next substantial project – and our immediate goal is to have a reliable and redundant replacement in operation before winter.

We are also involved heavily with the Interoperability Montana (IM) and the South Central Montana Interoperability Consortium (SCMIC) - and the very time consuming meetings and involvement associated with these committees.

The upside to SCMIC and IM commitment is that our information and communication capabilities should be dramatically and substantially improved – and the fruits of this effort should be seen within the next 2 – 3 years. These efforts also include plans for big improvement (communication wise) in the Big Sky areas of our county – an area that is currently very difficult to access from a communication / dispatch standpoint.

That is the update – as I see it - for now. I am looking forward to meeting you at the next LEPC meeting on Thursday September 20th.

Steve DiGiovanna

Madison County Citizen Corps Council
Brief minutes
September 13, 2007 7:00 pm
Ennis – Madison Valley Hospital Boardroom

We took in about \$727 from the 72 hour kit raffle due to the hard work of the Citizen Corps Council members especially Sheri Luksha and Wayne Redfield. We have opportunity to apply for \$2000 from the state department of health and human services for CERT and Chris has submitted a Helping Hand Grant for \$15,000. The Helping Hand grant needs to have public comments added to it so go to [My Hometown Helper.com](http://MyHometownHelper.com) to add your support comment for the Madison County CERT training program.

72 hr kit raffle winner was Trisha Carcroft of Twin Bridges, congratulations.

CERT course – Virginia City Saturday September 29, Saturday October 6 and Sunday October 7th.
I need help finding some instructors for the Medical sections (Saturday the 29th) and the Search and Rescue section. The program has only been as successfully as it has so far because of the endless giving of by the volunteers in the communities. Please consider a few more hours of giving to train others that will be able to hopefully relieve some of that burden.

Future trainings are in the planning for October Radio training in Ennis, Map reading in January in Alder and CPR in February in Ennis, 3 day PIO training in November in Ennis.

A map your Neighborhood program is being started by the state Citizen Corps Council and there are 2 train the trainers events in November that we hope to get some one to go to.

For the next Citizen Corps Council meeting October 11th in Virginia City please bring your 72 hour kit so we can compare and get ideas of what “add-ons” should be in them.